

NEW SOUTH WALES.

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# MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS STATISTICS

No. 166, February 28, 1945.

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Issued by S. R. Carver, Government Statistician.

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SYDNEY:

THOMAS HENRY TENNANT, GOVERNMENT PRINTER  
1945.

[Price 3d.]

## SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

## 1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1944.													
January ...	95	42	13	17	45	87	42	9	28	232	119	33	178
February ...	70	78	11	112	58	83	56	11	32	29	70	12	37
March ...	19	50	57	30	41	15	52	55	49	54	51	25	50
April ...	34	33	105	70	61	52	36	104	80	4	48	102	28
May ...	122	123	155	63	127	169	118	134	135	27	51	232	59
June ...	21	13	13	19	16	21	13	12	14	62	62	20	57
July ...	109	67	41	61	70	102	59	41	53	188	105	43	148
August ...	233	152	42	175	142	230	127	47	90	279	189	109	234
September ...	47	34	20	19	31	34	39	19	26	77	59	16	65
October ...	30	33	95	28	52	23	38	98	73	31	33	54	34
November ...	35	45	46	32	41	39	43	47	45	73	31	28	56
December ...	42	8	55	49	37	34	11	56	42	59	32	43	50
1945.													
January ...	104	151	114	42	114	109	159	116	127	51	83	134	70

N.—Northern; C.—Central; S.—Southern; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

## 2. WOOL.

The total production of wool in New South Wales was 546,273,000 lb. in 1939-40; 536,907,000 lb. in 1940-41; 547,000,000 lb. in 1941-42; 497,538,000 lb. in 1942-43 and 537,410,000 lb. in 1943-44.

The British Government has entered into a contract with the Commonwealth to purchase the wool clips of Australia for the duration of the war and one year thereafter. The agreed average price for seasons 1939-40 to 1941-42 was 10·75d. sterling or 13·4375d. Australian Currency, per lb. This price was increased to 12·3625d. sterling or 15·4531d. Australian Currency per lb., commencing with the 1942-43 clip.

Month.	Number of Bales Received into Store in Sydney.							
	During Month.				Total for Season to end of Month.			
	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.
July ...	80,397	67,442	83,715	76,207	80,397	67,442	83,715	76,207
August ...	191,662	128,260	105,532	113,506	272,059	195,702	189,247	189,713
September ...	269,889	180,883	158,065	73,356	541,948	376,585	347,312	263,069
October ...	288,766	195,950	173,622	129,588	830,714	572,535	520,934	392,657
November...	166,462	159,518	128,231	166,656	997,176	732,053	649,165	559,313
December ...	63,866	88,943	94,774	111,713	1,061,042	820,996	743,939	671,026
January ...	24,821	37,213	135,652	101,888	1,085,863	858,209	879,591	772,914
February ...	31,461	30,274	60,931	.....	1,117,324	888,483	940,522	.....
March ...	29,000	44,208	43,493	.....	1,146,324	932,691	984,015	.....
April ...	43,583	40,835	42,000	.....	1,189,907	973,526	1,026,015	.....
May ...	36,173	41,491	51,274	.....	1,226,080	1,015,017	1,077,289	.....
June ...	37,597	56,745	56,870	.....	1,263,677	1,071,762	1,134,159	.....

## 3. WHEAT.

Production in New South Wales. Compiled from returns of wheatgrowers.

Season.	Area under Wheat.		Yield of Grain.	
	Total.	Harvested For Grain.	Total.	Average per Acre.
Average 1933-34	acres.	acres.	bushels.	bushels.
to 1942-43 ... ..	4,492,000	4,126,000	52,591,000	12·7
1940-41... ..	4,866,000	4,454,000	23,933,000	5·4
1941-42... ..	4,342,000	3,969,000	48,500,000	12·2
1942-43... ..	3,386,000	3,033,000	51,693,000	17·0
1943-44... ..	2,975,000	2,693,000	47,500,000	17·6

The final estimate by the Division of Marketing, Department of Agriculture, of the 1944-45 wheat yield is 17,978,000 bushels.

## 4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in factories in the six months ended December, 1944, was 21·6 per cent. less than in the corresponding period of last season.

Since November, 1939, the British Government has purchased under contract the exportable surplus of Australian butter. The contract price for choicest was 137s. 2½d. per cwt. f.o.b. Australian ports to July, 1942, and 142s. 10d. since that date. The wholesale price for local consumption was fixed at 158s. 8d. per cwt. on 8th June, 1938, and increased to 166s. 10d. on 6th March, 1942.

Output of Butter—(New South Wales factories).

Month.	Average, 1937 to 1939.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Thousand lb.					
Year ended 30th June ...	113,010	103,683	85,116	93,775	87,857
Six months ended Dec. ...	54,221	39,127	47,267	44,783	35,112
January ... ..	12,521	14,453	6,664	13,044	12,821
March ... ..	12,637	11,743	10,116	8,648	8,439
June ... ..	5,945	5,183	5,467	3,679	2,594
July ... ..	5,061	4,592	5,163	3,313	2,462
August ... ..	5,361	4,638	5,346	3,279	3,065
September ... ..	7,093	5,850	5,952	4,933	5,397
October ... ..	10,107	7,504	7,499	8,626	8,488
November ... ..	13,128	7,935	11,275	11,553	8,168
December ... ..	13,471	8,608	12,032	13,079	7,532

## 5. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results, which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Thousand £.				Hundreds.				Hundred £.				
January ...	3,465	4,519	5,808	4,965	257	282	275	261	1,124	1,459	1,563	1,493
February ...	4,074	4,768	4,799	5,712	267	282	272	258	1,218	1,484	1,546	1,476
March ...	4,196	5,097	5,451	5,765	272	280	270	256	1,246	1,477	1,534	1,469
April ...	4,011	4,904	5,424	4,830	272	278	271	256	1,194	1,513	1,561	1,449
May ...	4,300	4,925	5,696	5,878	276	278	269	253	1,302	1,517	1,517	1,447
June ...	4,017	5,077	5,632	5,478	280	277	269	252	1,292	1,564	1,544	1,432
July ...	4,638	5,410	5,520	5,061	284	277	268	251	1,353	1,531	1,514	1,426
August ...	4,264	5,003	5,500	5,476	283	277	266	249	1,380	1,532	1,533	1,413
September ...	4,746	5,352	5,710	5,222	269	277	267	248	1,365	1,564	1,525	1,416
October ...	4,994	5,420	5,753	5,449	285	280	266	247	1,428	1,576	1,536	1,400
November ...	4,729	5,826	5,701	5,811	289	280	264	246	1,467	1,603	1,517	1,433
December ...	5,398	5,853	5,653	5,159	288	279	265	246	1,555	1,583	1,552	1,441
Average (January-December)	4,403	5,180	5,554	5,400	277	279	269	252	1,327	1,534	1,537	1,441

Further particulars of employment in factories are shown in Table 20.

## 6. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

## (a) SUMMARY OF PRIVATE BUILDING.

Value of permits to erect new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and certain Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded.

Year.	Month of January.				December Quarter.		
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.		Industrial and Rural Towns.	Total, New South Wales.*	
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.		New Buildings.	New Buildings and Additions.	
			No. of Permits.	Value.	No. of Permits.	Value.	
1942	£ 247,112	£ 8,298	194	£ 184,195	100	£ 52,279	£ 587,402
1943	110,369	7,844	15	52,379	70	43,037	402,011
1944	66,001	14,264	17	16,083	142	79,572	753,205
1945	145,037	22,983	72	87,617	...	...	...

\* Metropolis, 7 adjacent Shires and 129 rural and industrial towns; other areas not recorded.

## (b) CLASSES OF PRIVATE BUILDING.

The following dissection of private building permits granted in Sydney and Suburbs and in 129 Industrial and Rural Towns in N.S.W. shows the total value for each of the principal classes of building:—

Period.	Value of New Buildings and Alterations and Additions.						
	Houses.		Flats. (a)	Factories.	Shops (b) and Public Garages.	Other (Offices, Hotels, Hospitals, etc.).	Total.
	Brick.	Wood, Fibro, etc.					
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Month of January—	Sydney and Suburbs.						
1943	4	2	...	92	2	10	110
1944	3	5	...	45	...	13	66
1945	25	25	2	65	1	27	145
Seven months ended 31st Jan.							
1943	20	18	1	613	11	180	843
1944	20	30	8	521	5	176	760
1945	110	148	10	605	12	191	1,076
December Quarter—	129 Industrial and Rural Towns.						
1943	6	26	1	34	5	25	97
1944	7	59	1	59	4	33	163
Year ended 31st December.							
1943	20	116	3	109	20	126	394
1944	27	200	7	167	22	164	587

Includes (a) conversions to flats; (b) shops with dwellings attached.

## (c) GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

In addition to total for private building shown above, value of work authorised and contracts accepted for the erection of buildings on behalf of Governments and semi-Governmental authorities in New South Wales was as follow:—

Area.	Value of New Buildings and Additions (Governmental).			
	Month of January.		Seven months ended 31st Jan.	
	1944.	1945.	1944.	1945.
Sydney and Suburbs	£000	£000	£000	£000
Remainder of State	198	234	1,325	1,207
	48	90	463	760
Total, New South Wales	246	324	1,788	1,967

NOTE.—Temporary structures for protection against Air Raids and alterations for this purpose are, in general, excluded.



## SECTION B.—TRADE.

## 7. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales Tax Acts  
Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.

Period.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Million £.							
Year ended 31st December ...	192'97	200'29	202'79	229'03	238'65	240'54	251'40
January ...	14'21	13'24	16'33	15'83	18'69	17'18	18'01
February ...	15'73	16'54	14'64	17'48	19'39	21'60	20'48
March ...	15'79	15'78	16'97	17'40	19'53	19'44	18'00
April ...	16'83	15'79	17'88	19'06	19'19	21'88	21'68
May ...	16'87	17'46	14'85	18'75	20'72	19'56	21'45
June ...	14'98	14'88	17'07	21'76	18'93	20'91	20'67
July ...	16'23	15'28	16'74	17'63	19'17	19'81	20'87
August ...	15'29	16'81	17'17	20'41	20'86	18'75	23'82
September ...	17'45	19'44	17'48	21'60	19'59	19'93	21'46
October ...	15'66	19'22	18'50	18'25	22'07	20'80	21'82
November ...	16'93	17'53	18'13	20'58	19'54	21'07	20'30
December ...	17'00	18'32	17'03	20'28	20'98	19'61	22'84

## 8. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for periods shown below compared with corresponding periods of previous year:—

Period.	Number of Business Days in Period.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid.
Percentage increase + or decrease —								
Year ended December —								
1938 ... ..	303	303	+ 4'8	+ 5'2	+ 11'6	+ 5'0		
1939 ... ..	303	303	+ 2'4	+ 2'0	+ 2'6	+ 0'9		
1940 ... ..	303	305	+ 6'3	+ 17'0	+ 4'0	+ 1'9		
1941 ... ..	305	304	+ 14'6	+ 8'0	+ 9'0	+ 4'0		
1942 ... ..	304	303	— 5'3	+ 9'2	— 5'1	— 8'4		
1943 ... ..	303	306	— 11'3	— 6'8	— 9'7	— 17'6		
1944 ... ..	306	302	+ 3'2	— 0'2	— 4'6	+ 1'4		
1943.								
December ... ..	24	25	+ 5'4	— 12'8	— 5'3	— 11'4	— 1'6	— 5'5
1944.								
January ... ..	25	23	— 10'0	— 12'6	— 5'5	— 11'0	— 1'1	— 4'9
February ... ..	24	25	+ 1'6	— 2'9	+ 1'9	— 7'4	— 0'2	— 3'2
March ... ..	27	27	+ 10'4	— 5'1	— 1'3	— 8'8	+ 1'3	— 1'8
April ... ..	23	21	— 8'8	— 3'3	— 6'6	— 8'5	+ 0'5	— 2'2
May ... ..	26	27	+ 0'7	— 0'6	— 0'8	— 6'6	+ 0'5	— 2'9
June ... ..	26	25	+ 2'7	+ 0'8	— 2'2	— 7'5	— 1'8	— 3'2
July ... ..	27	26	+ 3'8	— 0'4	— 3'6	— 5'4	+ 2'1	— 2'2
August ... ..	26	27	+ 11'8	+ 4'2	+ 2'4	— 4'3	+ 6'1	— 1'1
September ... ..	26	26	+ 3'7	+ 5'0	— 1'5	— 3'8	+ 6'6	— 0'9
October ... ..	25	25	+ 5'6	+ 4'3	+ 0'1	— 3'2	+ 7'0	+ 0'3
November ... ..	26	26	+ 10'6	+ 4'4	+ 0'9	— 2'5	+ 6'8	— 0'2
December ... ..	25	24	+ 6'1	+ 4'6	— 0'6	— 1'3	+ 7'4	+ 0'1

Further particulars of monthly employment in retail trade are shown in Table 20.

## SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

## 9. RAILWAYS.

## NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were:—

	Month of December.			Six Months ended 31st December.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue. †	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1942 ...	2,850,707	3,093,449†	(—) 242,742	17,277,827	12,595,753	4,682,074
1943 ...	2,845,237	2,965,183†	(—) 119,946	17,721,712	13,274,875	4,446,837
1944 ...	2,664,450	2,409,850†	254,600	16,000,184	12,025,146	3,975,038

\* Excluding capital charges, viz. interest, exchange, sinking fund, etc., which amounted to £7,012,000 in 1943-44.

† Excluding Government contribution £800,000 annually for developmental lines.

‡ Including amounts not applicable to a particular month.

	Month of December.		Six Months ended 31st December.	
	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.*	Passenger Journeys.	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.*	Passenger Journeys.
	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1942 ...	1,587	19,933	10,038	116,157
1943 ...	1,552	20,531	10,073	123,127
1944 ...	1,480	20,679	9,617	123,761

\* Partly estimated.

## 10. TRAMWAYS AND OMNIBUSES.

## SERVICES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT, NEW SOUTH WALES

PERIOD.	SYDNEY AND SUBURBS.			NEWCASTLE AND SUBURBS.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.†	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.
Month of December—	£	£	thousands.	£	£	thousands.
1942 ...	438,326	68,358	39,401	40,848	6,558	3,508
1943 ...	448,600	49,700	40,839	46,300	7,300	3,714
1944 ...	452,200	39,200	42,945	49,600	7,500	4,054
Six months ended 31st December—						
1942 ...	2,518,413	296,920	224,852	243,774	43,841	19,447
1943 ...	2,568,720	211,110	234,616	258,620	33,700	20,725
1944 ...	2,624,200	243,900	250,979	276,600	36,600	22,612

\* Exclusive of Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Current Depreciation (Sydney and Newcastle), which amounted to £546,700 in 1943-44.

† Exclusive of Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.

## 11. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.  
(Exclusive of Vehicles of Defence Services.)

Class.	1939. 31st August.	1943.		1944.				1945. 31st January.
		30th June.	31st December.	31st January.	30th June.	30th September.	31st December.	
Cars ...	216,633	173,188	177,245	177,771	180,938	182,315	184,364	184,640
Lorries and Vans ...	77,639	72,159	75,068	75,473	78,023	78,942	80,495	80,824
Trailers ...	6,532	6,873	7,409	7,504	7,621	7,848	8,501	8,657
Tractors† ...	1,102	1,382	1,429	1,439	1,517	1,585	1,636	1,652
Cycles—Solo ...	17,111	9,647	9,842	9,870	11,162	11,386	11,649	11,685
Cycles—Side-car ...	6,884	4,523	4,518	4,540	3,735	3,810	3,897	3,912
Omnibuses ...	794	913	913	916	977	998	1,018	1,013
Taxi-cabs ...	1,331	1,349	1,348	1,347	1,349	1,350	1,352	1,352
Traders' Plates ...	1,187	610	634	607	624	633	642	628
Total ...	329,219	270,638	278,406	279,467	285,946	288,867	293,554	294,363

† Excluding tractors used on farms only.

## Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.\*

Year.	Cars (Including Cabs and Omnibuses).						Lorries and Vans.					
	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
1940-41 ...	88	118	128	173	163	141	53	63	64	77	69	53
1941-42 ...	21	32	44	43	38	23	45	41	43	52	61	32
1942-43 ...	19	16	21	18	12	7	9	7	5	5	2	6
1943-44 ...	3	4	6	4	5	3	55	60	64	86	94	67
1944-45 ...	5	6	6	10	9	5	62	66	53	65	58	38

\* Excluding trailers.

## 12. WIRELESS LICENSES.

BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.

(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

End of Month.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
March ...	447,310	491,816	502,810	536,795	560,665
June ...	458,155	494,884	500,451	552,044	560,032
September ...	479,485	500,125	509,332	554,227	563,425
October ...	483,148	499,804	515,228	555,450	561,504
November ...	482,837	499,614	519,375	557,140	562,093
December ...	483,875	501,253	523,920	558,381	560,717
January ...	485,854	503,346	527,733	556,775	564,184

## SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

## 13. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (NEW SOUTH WALES).†

As at June 30th.	Amount of Deposits.†	End of Month.	Amount of Deposits.		
			1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.
1933 ...	£ 72,307,685	February ...	£ 90,647,010	£ 112,817,955	£ 150,374,695
1934 ...	75,714,070	March ...	89,458,641	115,641,889	154,153,971
1935 ...	77,906,402	April ...	91,110,603	115,500,011	156,024,547
1936 ...	79,999,948	May ...	92,925,282	118,016,266	157,044,862
1937 ...	81,952,399	June† ...	94,537,937	122,405,481	162,867,225
1938 ...	86,015,685	July ...	97,330,938	126,688,719	166,751,050
1939 ...	87,473,789	August ...	99,727,345	130,518,639	170,103,712
1940 ...	82,110,900	September ...	101,385,379	134,162,891	173,037,207
1941 ...	87,750,208	October ...	103,583,441	136,326,132	173,980,838
1942 ...	94,537,937	November ...	104,929,899	138,328,054	176,747,773
1943 ...	122,405,481	December ...	105,744,876	142,108,496	179,128,213
1944 ...	162,867,225	January ...	109,220,389	146,283,258	181,801,334

† Including accrued interest.

‡ Amount at credit of depositors' accounts.

WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES: The net amount received from sales of certificates less re-purchases in New South Wales totalled £17,405,223 as at 31st January, 1945, including £215,292 net receipts in January.

## 14. TRADING BANKS\*—DEPOSITS, ETC., IN AUSTRALIA.

December Quarter.	Deposits.	Cash in Aust.†	Treasury Bills.	Govt. and Municipal Securities.	Special Wartime Deposits with Comwth Bank.	Advances.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1941 ...	379,272	44,807	46,012	62,313	2,625	277,977
1942 ...	419,427	50,626	58,300	60,103	54,570	249,631
1943 ...	487,979	40,011	61,404	79,937	124,547	235,507
1944 ...	560,589	38,838	63,200	104,888	190,768	211,804

\*Nine Private Banks.

† Exclusive of London Funds.

## 15. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

December Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Deposits over Advances.
	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Total.		
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1941 ...	76,432	65,856	142,288	113,565	28,723
1942 ...	91,676	61,909	153,585	102,043	51,542
1943 ...	111,460	69,116	180,576	91,120	89,456
1944 ...	135,603	76,758	212,361	84,270	128,091

## 16. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
	Amount—Million £							Index Numbers.						
January ...	66.5	82.7	90.3	92.0	106.7	107.5	114.2	98	110	117	123	136	150	152
February ...	75.5	88.9	82.0	97.1	105.7	121.2	...	96	110	114	123	139	147	...
March ...	80.5	87.8	89.4	102.6	123.4	130.1	...	93	107	110	119	138	146	...
April ...	70.7	84.3	86.9	95.4	125.3	108.4	...	98	111	111	125	150	150	...
May ...	82.0	90.2	106.3	98.9	123.0	143.5	...	100	111	117	125	155	158	...
June ...	80.3	94.5	97.4	116.6	132.6	140.1	...	101	115	123	133	163	166	...
July ...	71.2	94.6	98.9	99.7	114.3	122.9	...	98	116	125	130	155	168	...
August ...	74.9	83.6	87.0	99.0	122.7	127.4	...	99	118	123	135	160	169	...
September ...	74.9	84.5	94.9	105.6	116.5	120.9	...	99	117	124	134	155	163	...
October ...	78.0	90.1	101.8	115.0	115.5	123.7	...	100	113	123	138	152	159	...
November ...	86.1	93.5	99.6	105.0	129.3	126.3	...	102	114	124	135	149	153	...
December ...	91.7	100.1	104.9	121.6	127.3	127.6	...	106	115	124	136	150	152	...
Year ...	932.3	1074.8	1139.4	1248.5	1442.3	1499.6	...	100	113	120	131	151	156	...

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is, the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

## 17. INTEREST RATES PER CENT. (N.S.W.).

Period.	Private First Mortgages Registered. Weighted Average Rate of Interest.*		Yield on Commonwealth Government Securities†—subject to Commonwealth Income Tax—				
			Not exceeding Rates in force in 1930.			At Current Rates.	
	Urban Securities.	Rural Securities.	Short- dated.	Medium- dated.	Long- dated.	Short- dated. 2 years.	Long- dated. 12 years.
Average for year—			Under 5 years.	5 to 10 years.	10 years and over.		
1938 ... ..	5'4	5'0	3'38	3'71	3'76	...	...
1939 ... ..	5'6	5'2	3'84	3'87	3'92	...	...
1940 ... ..	5'6	5'1	3'14	3'25	3'30	...	...
1941 ... ..	5'5	4'9	2'45	2'95	3'10	...	...
1941 ... ..	5'5	4'9	2 years.	7 years.	12 years.		
1942 ... ..	5'4	4'9	2'42	2'87	3'13	2'47	3'23
1943 ... ..	5'0	4'7	2'39	2'89	3'11	2'45	3'24
1944 ... ..	5'0	4'4	2'43	2'72	3	2'48	3'23
1944—March...	5'0	4'4	2'30	2'60	...	2'45	3'24
1944—June ...	5'0	4'4	2'40	2'69	...	2'43	3'24
1944—September	5'0	4'6	2'32	2'62	...	2'44	3'24
1944—November	5'0	4'3	2'34	2'49	...	2'47	3'24
1944—December	5'0	4'3	2'09	2'52	...	2'48	3'24
1945—January	4'9	4'4	2'19	2'51	...	2'49	3'24
			2'07	2'43	...	2'48	3'24

\* Average of three months ended month shown.

† Compiled by Commonwealth Bank as at last Wednesday in month.

§ Subsequent yields uncertain.

## 18. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

Month.	Consideration of Sales.					Amount of Mortgages.*				
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
	Thousand £.									
January ... ..	2,383	2,815	1,226	1,090	1,786	1,148	916	595	383	608
February ... ..	2,557	2,472	1,294	1,507	...	1,329	973	390	611	...
March ... ..	2,677	2,083	1,550	1,552	...	1,320	996	503	663	...
April ... ..	2,574	2,276	1,517	931	...	1,305	891	536	302	...
May ... ..	2,835	1,134	1,185	1,307	...	1,324	526	381	495	...
June ... ..	3,029	1,266	1,358	1,809	...	1,273	599	400	687	...
July ... ..	3,165	1,340	1,783	1,992	...	1,470	622	399	543	...
August ... ..	2,545	1,671	1,379	2,241	...	1,213	451	450	723	...
September ... ..	2,941	1,616	1,551	1,772	...	1,571	516	432	597	...
October ... ..	3,013	1,514	1,549	1,654	...	1,413	423	618	534	...
November ... ..	2,548	1,942	1,558	1,890	...	1,022	530	558	529	...
December ... ..	2,972	1,260	1,592	1,708	...	1,242	562	494	699	...
Year ... ..	33,239	21,609	17,542	19,462	...	15,630	8,007	5,756	6,866	...

\* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

NOTE.—The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security are included.

## 19. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

	Month of January.			Year ended 31st December.		
	Crops.	Wool.*	Livestock.*	Crops.	Wool.*	Livestock.*
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1943 ... ..	94,388	152,361	111,390	1,416,767	1,734,753	774,467
1944 ... ..	46,781	79,029	48,838	942,182	1,422,169	600,149
1945 ... ..	72,314	98,682	68,843	.....	.....	.....

See note under Table 18. \* Loans secured by both lien on wool and mortgage on sheep are included under both headings.



## SECTION E.—GENERAL.

## 20. EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

## WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT.

The estimates shown below are based on Civilian Registers and returns supplied monthly by employers for purposes of Commonwealth Pay-roll Tax as from July, 1941. Employees in defence forces at home or abroad and Government "relief" workers are not included.

Month.	Estimated Total Employment, (Excluding Rural, Household Domestic and Defence Forces.)			Estimated Employment in Main Industrial Groups.						
	Govern- mental Authori- ties. (a)	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarry- ing.	Fac- tories. (b)	Building and Con- struc- tion. (c)	Transport and Communi- cation.	Retail Trade.	Other Commerce and Finance.	Professional and Personal Services. (d)
MALES. (Thousands.)										
1933—June ...	103·2	277·5	380·7	...	94·5	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	136·5	393·4	529·9	...	158·8	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	141·5	404·8	546·3	25·8	202·1	53·6	78·2	41·3	43·3	52·5
1942—July ...	158·6	376·0	534·6	25·4	213·3	44·2	80·3	32·3	36·0	46·0
1943—July ...	156·6	365·4	522·0	25·1	217·4	29·9	81·5	28·7	33·2	43·3
Oct. ...	154·9	364·9	519·8	25·1	217·9	29·2	80·8	28·3	33·4	43·9
Nov. ...	153·9	366·2	520·1	25·0	218·0	29·1	80·9	28·2	33·8	44·1
Dec. ...	152·6	369·2	521·8	24·7	217·3	28·8	80·9	29·7	33·5	44·5
1944—Jan. ...	152·5	369·6	522·1	24·6	217·9	28·1	81·5	28·4	34·1	44·8
Feb. ...	153·0	369·6	522·6	24·7	217·7	28·0	82·2	28·3	34·2	44·7
Mar. ...	152·4	370·8	523·2	24·7	218·0	28·1	81·9	28·3	34·5	44·9
April ...	151·6	369·8	521·4	24·5	216·5	27·5	82·3	28·4	34·3	45·0
May ...	152·3	369·2	521·5	24·6	216·2	27·0	82·8	28·5	34·2	45·0
June ...	152·3	369·9	522·2	24·4	216·5	25·7	84·4	28·6	34·5	45·1
July ...	152·4	369·7	522·1	24·4	216·2	26·2	84·1	28·4	34·2	45·4
Aug. ...	153·2	369·0	522·2	24·4	215·0	25·0	85·2	28·7	34·6	45·8
Sept. ...	154·2	369·4	523·6	24·7	214·0	26·4	85·4	28·6	35·1	45·9
Oct. ...	152·5	370·7	523·2	24·7	214·6	26·3	84·1	28·7	35·2	46·0
Nov. ...	153·4	372·5	525·9	24·8	213·9	26·8	85·6	29·1	35·6	46·2
Dec. ...	152·1	374·3	526·4	24·5	213·7	27·4	84·4	30·5	35·6	46·4
FEMALES. (Thousands.)										
1933—June ...	16·8	109·0	125·8	...	36·3	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	19·4	148·6	168·0	...	59·3	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	21·7	192·4	214·1	0·2	76·0	0·7	8·1	40·9	17·6	56·8
1942—July ...	29·3	203·6	232·9	0·2	84·8	0·7	9·0	41·1	20·7	58·9
1943—July ...	45·8	204·1	249·9	0·2	94·6	0·7	12·9	38·5	20·5	62·3
Oct. ...	46·8	207·0	253·8	0·2	96·5	0·7	13·2	38·0	20·9	64·3
Nov. ...	47·0	208·3	255·3	0·2	96·2	0·7	13·4	38·3	20·8	64·4
Dec. ...	46·4	210·0	256·4	0·2	95·5	0·7	13·4	40·1	20·8	64·1
1944—Jan. ...	46·6	205·5	252·1	0·2	93·3	0·7	13·5	37·5	20·6	64·4
Feb. ...	47·2	205·3	252·5	0·2	93·1	0·7	13·8	37·3	20·6	64·8
Mar. ...	47·0	207·0	254·0	0·2	93·9	0·7	13·6	37·1	20·4	65·5
April ...	46·8	205·1	251·9	0·2	92·5	0·7	13·7	37·3	20·3	65·0
May ...	46·0	205·6	251·6	0·2	91·8	0·7	13·7	37·3	20·2	65·2
June ...	45·3	205·1	250·4	0·2	90·5	0·7	13·8	37·3	20·3	65·4
July ...	45·5	206·1	251·6	0·2	90·9	0·8	13·9	37·2	20·4	65·7
Aug. ...	45·4	206·5	251·9	0·2	90·7	0·7	14·0	37·2	20·4	66·1
Sept. ...	44·4	207·3	251·7	0·2	90·2	0·7	14·0	37·3	20·8	66·7
Oct. ...	44·7	207·8	252·5	0·2	89·7	0·7	14·0	37·7	20·8	67·4
Nov. ...	44·5	209·3	253·8	0·2	89·4	0·7	14·0	38·7	20·8	67·8
Dec. ...	44·2	210·3	254·5	0·2	89·0	0·7	14·0	40·4	20·7	67·4
TOTAL. (Thousands.)										
1933—June ...	120·0	386·5	506·5	...	130·8	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	155·9	542·0	697·9	...	218·1	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	163·2	597·2	760·4	26·0	278·1	54·3	86·3	82·2	60·9	109·3
1942—July ...	187·9	579·6	767·5	25·6	298·1	44·9	89·3	73·4	56·7	104·9
1943—July ...	202·4	569·5	771·9	25·3	312·0	30·6	94·4	67·2	53·7	105·6
Oct. ...	201·7	572·8	774·5	25·3	314·4	29·9	94·0	66·3	54·3	108·2
Nov. ...	200·9	574·5	775·4	25·2	314·2	29·8	94·3	66·5	54·6	108·5
Dec. ...	199·1	575·1	774·2	24·9	311·2	28·8	95·0	65·9	54·7	109·2
1944—Jan. ...	200·2	575·1	775·3	24·9	310·8	28·7	96·0	65·6	54·8	109·5
Feb. ...	199·4	577·8	777·2	24·9	311·9	28·8	95·5	65·4	54·9	110·4
Mar. ...	198·4	574·9	773·3	24·7	300·0	28·2	95·9	65·4	54·6	110·0
April ...	198·3	574·8	773·1	24·8	308·0	27·7	96·5	65·8	54·4	110·2
May ...	197·6	575·3	772·9	24·6	307·0	26·4	98·2	65·9	54·8	110·5
June ...	197·9	575·8	773·7	24·6	307·1	27·0	98·0	65·6	54·6	111·1
July ...	198·6	575·3	774·1	24·6	305·7	25·7	99·2	65·9	55·0	111·9
Aug. ...	198·6	576·7	775·3	24·9	304·2	27·1	99·4	65·9	55·9	112·6
Sept. ...	197·2	578·3	775·7	24·9	304·3	27·0	98·1	66·4	56·0	113·4
Oct. ...	197·9	581·8	779·7	25·0	303·3	27·5	99·6	67·8	56·4	114·0
Nov. ...	196·3	584·6	780·9	24·7	302·7	28·1	98·4	70·9	56·3	113·8

(a) Employees of Commonwealth, State and Local Government Authorities and of Allied Governments.

(b) Exclusive of Working Proprietors. Numbers for July, 1943, and later months are subject to revision.

(c) Includes Allied Works projects.

(d) Includes Education, Health, Hotels and Restaurants, Professional and Personal Services (except private domestic).

NOTE.—Estimates of employment in principal industries shown above replace former data which related to pay-roll Tax returns only.

## 21. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).

(Based on number of units each equal to 3.412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1932.	1936.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
January ...	100	103	93	110	119	125	136	141	141	164	155	*173
February ...	100	105	95	112	122	125	135	142	145	159	161	...
March ...	100	102	95	111	121	130	130	143	146	164	165	...
April... ..	100	104	96	110	119	125	137	141	147	164	162	...
May ...	100	106	95	110	122	128	28	146	144	166	172	...
June ...	100	103	99	114	127	131	135	150	154	174	176	...
July ...	100	105	97	112	126	134	139	149	158	171	177	...
August ...	100	106	97	107	128	135	137	151	157	181	181	...
September ...	100	108	97	113	123	134	134	151	158	171	172	...
October ...	100	109	96	113	121	135	137	154	163	162	169	...
November ...	100	109	97	116	124	136	139	152	161	164	171	...
December ...	100	105	99	116	124	131	138	153	165	163	169	...
Year ...	100	105	96	112	123	131	135	148	154	167	170	...

\* Subject to revision.

The base for each month is the average sales in the corresponding month of the three years, 1929 to 1931.

## 22. RETAIL PRICE INDEX NUMBERS—SYDNEY—WAR PERIOD.

(Base: Weighted Average for 6 Capital Cities in 1923-27 = 1,000)

Quarter.	Food and Groceries.	Rent— 4 and 5 rooms.	Clothing.	Miscellaneous Items.	Total Household Expenditure.	
					Index Number.	Increase from Sept. Quarter, 1939.
						Per cent.
1939—September ...	930	1,039	841	939	933	...
1940—September ...	945	1,042	948	996	973	4'3
1941—September ...	947	1,043	1,129	1,062	1,027	10'1
1942—September ...	1,061	1,042	1,337	1,105	1,122	20'3
1943—March ...	1,050	1,042	1,408	1,145	1,141	22'3
June ...	1,065	1,042	1,479	1,162	1,165	24'9
September ...	1,039	1,042	1,463	1,176	1,154	23'7
December ...	1,015	1,042	1,449	1,179	1,143	22'5
1944—March ...	1,019	1,043	1,443	1,176	1,143	22'5
June ...	1,025	1,043	1,437	1,172	1,143	22'5
September ...	1,035	1,043	1,437	1,167	1,146	22'8
December ...	1,022	1,043	1,441	1,169	1,142	22'4

## 23. BASIC WAGE—INDUSTRIAL AWARDS.

Amount per week—Adult Males.

YEAR.				Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong— Port Kembla.*				Crown Employees. (All Districts).			
				Quarterly adjustment commencing—							
				February.	May.	August.	November.	February.	May.	August.	November.
			s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1939	...	...	81 0	82 0	81 0	82 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
1940	...	...	82 0	83 0	85 0	85 0	81 0	81 0	83 0	84 0	84 0
1941	...	...	88 0	88 0	89 0	89 0	86 0	87 0	87 0	88 0	88 0
1942	...	...	91 0	93 0	95 0	97 0	90 0	92 0	94 0	96 0	96 0
1943	...	...	98 0	98 0	100 0	99 0	97 0	97 0	99 0	98 0	98 0
1944	...	...	99 0	99 0	99 0	99 0	97 0	97 0	97 0	98 0	98 0
1945	...	...	99 0	...	...	...	97 0	...	...	...	...

\* In all other districts, except Broken Hill, the rates were 3s. less.

In 1939 quarterly variations commenced in March, June, September and December.

## 24. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Prices of Metals (Export Parity f.o.b. Australia) in Australian Currency.

Period.	Silver (Standard).		Lead.		Zinc (Electrolytic).		Tin (Standard).		Gold (Fine).	
	per oz.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.		per oz.	
	s.	d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1929 ... ..	2	0·57	21	14 5	25	19 5	200	11 5	4	4 11
1938 ... ..	2	0·14	17	12 11	19	12 10	228	11 10	8	17 2
1939 ... ..	2	1·42	17	12 1	19	15 3	268	3 6	9	14 4
1940 ... ..	2	2·95	18	14 6	22	9 11	292	19 8	10	13 1
1941 ... ..	2	4·26	19	11 4	22	12 11	295	1 6	10	13 8
1942 ... ..	2	4·66	21	9 9	22	2 11	285	9 1	10	9 1
1943 ... ..	2	4·63	22	19 2	23	15 2	283	1 6	10	9 0
1944—March ...	2	4·63	24	7 10	22	0 6	329	11 6	10	9 0
June ... ..	2	4·63	26	10 5	29	4 4	329	11 6	10	9 5
July ... ..	2	4·63	24	14 8	27	17 3	345	17 0	10	10 0
September... ..	2	4·63	28	0 5	28	0 2	346	2 5	10	11 0
October ... ..	2	4·63	28	10 10	30	12 5	347	9 7	10	12 0
November... ..	2	4·63	26	4 6	22	0 6	347	9 7	10	12 0
December ... ..	2	4·63	26	9 4	22	0 6	347	9 7	10	12 0

\* Revised.

## 25. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio per cent. of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values, adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares are issued.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
April, 1929 \$	179·3	183·8	129·4	174·1	243·5	174·4	172·6
Sept., 1931 \$	72·3	60·2	87·9	75·2	121·3	74·4	77·2
Mar., 1937 \$	213·8	203·8	181·0	169·2	281·2	190·4	200·5
1944—Jan. ...	237·1	193·8	148·3	135·0	254·1	185·4	200·4
Feb. ...	237·0	193·8	149·3	135·0	254·1	185·6	200·6
March... ..	237·1	194·0	149·7	135·1	254·1	185·7	200·7
April ... ..	237·2	194·0	150·1	136·9	254·1	185·8	201·0
May ... ..	237·1	193·8	150·1	138·7	254·1	185·9	201·1
June ... ..	237·2	194·3	150·4	138·7	254·1	186·0	201·4
July ... ..	237·3	195·3	150·4	138·8	254·1	186·1	201·5
Aug. ... ..	237·3	195·8	150·2	139·1	254·1	186·3	201·7
Sept. ... ..	237·5	196·2	150·6	139·3	254·1	186·6	202·0
Oct. ... ..	240·2	202·3	160·9	145·0	263·3	192·0	206·6
Nov. ... ..	240·3	202·6	162·8	145·4	264·1	192·5	207·1
Dec. ... ..	240·4	203·0	162·5	146·0	264·1	192·6	207·0
1945—Jan. ...	240·6	203·5	162·7	146·3	264·1	192·8	207·3

\* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies. § The highest point of the index (75 Companies) prior to the slump was reached in April, 1929; the lowest point was in September, 1931. The highest point of the pre-war period was in March, 1937.

The estimated population of N.S.W. at 30th June, 1944, was 2,870,956 or 39·3 per cent. of the total population of Australia (Sydney and Suburbs, 31st December, 1943, 1,398,170).

## NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the end of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted) payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.

28th February, 1945.

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